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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT
 CD NO.

COUNTRY German Democratic Republic
 SUBJECT Political
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper
 WHERE PUBLISHED Plauen-Stadt
 DATE PUBLISHED 15 Apr 1953
 LANGUAGE German

DATE OF INFORMATION 1953
 DATE DIST. 7 Aug 1953
 NO. OF PAGES 2
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Freie Presse.VILLAGE PASTOR SUPPORTS SABOTEURS OF GDR FOOD SUPPLY

A great revolutionary change is occurring in the villages of the GDR. The amalgamation of working peasants and agricultural workers into agricultural production cooperatives is the new development in the agricultural domain. The greater our successes in the building up of our agricultural production cooperatives, the more bitterly the class enemy will seek to hinder this development.

In Beiersdorf, Kreis Werdau, several large farm owners tried to engage in large-scale sabotage of the food supply of our people. They owed the government 30,800 kilograms of milk (which would be equivalent to 1,185 kilograms of butter) and 22,000 kilograms of grain, and they were delinquent in the 1952 potato deliveries by 38,600 kilograms, the yearly ration for 330 people. The three owners of the large farm "Muellers Erben" /an association continuing the business of the Mueller estate/ were therefore given prison sentences as saboteurs of the people's food supply.

This measure is in complete conformity with the demands of all honest people in the GDR that antisocial elements be severely punished. However, Pastor Guendel from Beiersdorf thinks quite differently. What did he do after the sentence against the owners of "Muellers Erben" was publicized? He and his wife collected signatures for a document which claimed that the owners of "Muellers Erben" were innocently sentenced by our democratic justice. In this way, Guendel tried to protect enemies of the people under the pretense of Christian charity and humanity.

Why did Pastor Guendel ally himself with the criminal, large-landowner elements whose actions have harmed the entire population: Only the American warmongers and their hirelings, who expend huge sums for agents, saboteurs, etc. in order to disrupt our successful development, rejoice in this. By interceding for the saboteurs of our people's food supply, Pastor Guendel becomes the helper of the American warmongers.

At a meeting of Beiersdorf residents on 10 April 1953, in which Pastor Guendel participated, he was unmasked as a deceitful man.

- 1 -

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At this meeting Pastor Guendel tried to defend further these saboteurs of the people's food supply. His statements even met with the approval of some of the residents of Beiersdorf.

As was stated at the discussion by a member of the FDJ (Free German Youth), Pastor Guendel, a former officer of the Fascist Wehrmacht, tries to use fascist methods of education in giving the youth preparatory instructions for confirmation. Furthermore, as was pointed out by Mr. Fischer, a teacher, Guendel demands that the young people continue to attend instruction classes after their confirmation, and he overburdens them with so much homework that they must neglect their school studies.

Pastor Guendel disclosed his deceit by declaring, "I did not know the real circumstances concerning 'Muellers Erben' until today. I did it out of humanity out of my calling as a representative of the Church." (Editor's note: Guendel claimed this despite the fact that he took part in the legal proceedings against the owners of "Muellers Erben.")

"We ask Pastor Guendel whether the use of fascist methods to educate the youth and whether the collection of signatures for the release of the saboteurs of our people's food supply are also done by him out of humanity," said Comrade Graeber from the Vigogne Spinning Mill in Werdau.

The production workers and activists of the people-owned Vigogne Spinning Mill in Werdau, which is an enterprise sponsored by the community of Beiersdorf, participated as guests in the residents' meeting and expressed their conviction that the only right thing for such antisocial elements is imprisonment.

What final conclusions can we draw from this provocative occurrence in Beiersdorf?

Pastor Guendel knew how to hoodwink some of the people by his double-tongued remarks. At the end of the meeting, however, there were only a few who were on Guendel's side.

In his closing remarks, Comrade Schwabe of the Kreis Rat (Kreis Council) declared that the "Muellers Erben" affair should not have been allowed to get as far as it did. The whole community should have unmasked these saboteurs much sooner. It is important that our working peasants intensify their watchfulness in the country and act decisively against such saboteurs as the owners of "Muellers Erben." It is also important to be watchful against hidden enemies of our Republic, as, for example, Pastor Guendel, who plays his two-faced game under the protective cloak of the Church; and constantly to unmask these enemies with the help of our people, as was done in Beiersdorf.

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- 2 -

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